

## What We Do...

### *We bring it all together.*

When a disaster happens, SCEMD brings representatives from state government and volunteer organizations together under one roof to effectively coordinate a rapid response.

State agencies including the Department of Public Safety, the State Law Enforcement Division, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Social Services provide varied areas of expertise when preparing for and responding to a disaster.

SCEMD coordinates agencies and resources, sending assets such as generators, fresh drinking water, and National Guard and Highway Patrol personnel to disaster sites, quickly and efficiently.

SCEMD plans for disasters every day of the year and works closely with its federal counterpart, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, as well as county and municipal emergency managers.

## What You Can Do...

### *Be prepared. Have a plan.*

- ✓ Prepare a family disaster plan.
- ✓ Build a disaster supplies kit.
- ✓ Safeguard your house against the effects of high winds, floods, and earthquakes.
- ✓ Be aware of the elderly or disabled near you who may need assistance.
- ✓ Heed the advice of emergency personnel.

For more information contact:

### **South Carolina Emergency Management Division**

Office of the Adjutant General  
2779 Fish Hatchery Road  
West Columbia, SC 29172

Phone: 803-737-8500

Fax: 803-737-8570

Or visit us on the Web at:

**[www.scemd.org](http://www.scemd.org)**



The Pine Ridge National Guard Armory was retrofitted to provide South Carolina with its first state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center.



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## South Carolina Emergency Management Division



Who We Are,  
What We Do,  
What You Can Do.

# Who We Are...

## **SCEMD, the emergency professionals.**

The South Carolina Emergency Management Division is the coordinating agency responsible for the statewide emergency management program and is a division of the Military Department of South Carolina, which is headed by the state's Adjutant General.

The division's mission is to provide leadership and support to reduce the loss of life and property in South Carolina and protect the state's institutions from all types of hazards through a comprehensive, risk-based, multi-hazard emergency management program. The division coordinates with counties and municipalities to insure statewide effective preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation programs are in place.



*SCEMD manages the 7,500-square-foot State Emergency Operations Center.*

**The Director's Office** and his executive staff are responsible for maintaining oversight of the state's preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities, to include the daily management of the division. The Director's Office is also responsible for the state's coordination efforts with emergency management personnel at the local and national levels.



*The state emergency communications vehicle provides mobile technology to communicate during disasters.*

**The Public Information Section** is responsible for communicating vital information to the public before, during and after disasters. This section also coordinates with radio and television stations to disseminate information over the Emergency Alert System statewide.

**The Preparedness and Response Section** is responsible for the development, coordination, and maintenance of plans for natural and technological hazards, state emergency operations, state radiological operations and the training of emergency planners and response personnel at the state and county levels. The section is responsible for the development and execution of exercises. It provides technical assistance at all levels for planning, training, and exercises. It is also responsible for the operation of the State Emergency Operations Center and the standard operating procedures that go into effect when the division coordinates the state's response to emergencies. This section operates the state's 24-hour warning point and manages the area coordinator program, which provides county emergency managers with assistance and information.

**The Recovery and Mitigation Section** is responsible for the state's mitigation program, and the individual and public assistance programs. These programs assist in returning a community to normal following a disaster, as well as reducing the future impacts of hazards on people and property. This section also is responsible for risk assessments.

**The Critical Incident Management Group** includes highly trained experts who focus on situations involving weapons of mass destruction and overwhelming radiological, chemical, biological, and nuclear incidents. Whether it is a large chemical spill in a heavily populated area or a terrorist attack, the Critical Incident Management Group is prepared to respond.

**The Administrative Services Section** is responsible for fiscal operations, grants administration, personnel administration, and maintenance of the fleet and facility. When a Presidential Declaration is approved for a disaster within the state, federal and state funds are administered by this section for the payment of claims for public assistance, individual assistance and mitigation projects.

**The Operations Support Section** is primarily responsible for facility management concerns such as building systems maintenance, communications, automated systems, and safety and logistics. The section is also charged to oversee development and implementation of technical communications systems that support emergency management operations statewide.



*The Pine Ridge National Guard Armory houses the State Emergency Operations Center and the S.C. Emergency Management Division.*